

# **DNREC to present 'Gardening for Clean Water and Butterflies' March 20 at Seaford Library as part of Reclaim Our River Program**

**SEAFORD** – DNREC's Division of Watershed Stewardship's Reclaim Our River (ROR) Program, in partnership with the Delaware Nature Society's Abbott's Mill Nature Center and the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance, will host a free presentation on "Gardening for Clean Water and Butterflies" at 6 p.m. Monday, March 20 at the Seaford Library, 600 North Market Street Extended, Seaford, DE 19973.

Over the last 20 years, the monarch butterfly population worldwide has declined by 90 percent – a critical environmental loss since plants depend on pollinators like butterflies to reproduce. Pollinators enable flowering plants to reproduce so they can help purify water and prevent erosion through roots that hold the soil in place and foliage that buffers the impact of rainfall.

"ROR partnership members will share information on activities that support clean water, and a limited supply of milkweed seeds will be available," said Philip Miller, DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship, Nonpoint Source Program. "Participants also will learn about this year's 2017 ROR-Nanticoke Series, which again offers numerous opportunities to have fun around the water and learn surefire techniques for helping keep our waterways clean."

The presentation will be led by Alice Mohrman from the Delaware Nature Society's Abbott's Mill Nature Center, and

will focus on gardening for clean water and butterflies. Ms. Mohrman will introduce participants to the life history of a variety of native butterflies and pollinators, and focus on how to invite these beneficial insects to a yard, deck, patio or balcony. Tips on landscaping properties, big or small, with attractive native plants to support butterfly habitat will also help reduce pollution in our local waterways. Ms. Mohrman also will share a few easy steps toward creating a Certified Wildlife Habitat™.

For more information about on the presentation, please contact Alice Mohrman at 302-422-0847 or [alice@delawarenaturesociety.org](mailto:alice@delawarenaturesociety.org). For more information on the Reclaim Our River Program, please contact Philip Miller at 302-739-9939 or [philip.miller@delaware.gov](mailto:philip.miller@delaware.gov).

*The Reclaim Our River – Nanticoke Series is devoted to bringing monthly events, workshops and recreational activities to the Nanticoke Watershed. The series offers participants fun opportunities to connect with Delaware's waterways and provides important information on water quality that can help in protecting aquatic resources.*

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